

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 01517 121911Z

42

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

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FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 149

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 1517

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, BE

SUBJECT: FINAL ELECTION RESULTS

REF: BRUSSELS 1487

1. FINAL RESULTS OF MARCH 10 BELGIAN ELECTIONS ARE IN AND THE KING WILL SOON BEGIN CONSULTATIONS WITH PARTY LEADERS IN PREPARATION FOR NAMING EITHER INFORMATEUR OF FORMATEUR, LATTER IN CASE HE DEEMS IT POSSIBLE FOR SOMEONE TO PROCEED DIRECTLY TO ATTEMPT TO FORM NEW GOVERNMENT. FLEMISH SOCIAL CHRISTIAN LEADER TINDEMANS WOULD BE FORMATEUR; INFORMATEUR COULD BE SOME OTHER SOCIAL CHRISTIAN.

2. ACCORDING TO COMPLETE RETURNS, SOCIAL CHRISTIANS (PSC-CVP) WILL HAVE 72 SEATS IN THE NEW CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES, SOCIALISTS (PSB-BSP) 30, TON LIBERALS (PLP-PVV) 30, WALLONIAN RALLY/DEMOCRATIC FRANCOPHONE FRONT/DEMOCRATIC AND PLURALIST LIBERAL PARTY (RW-FDF-PLDP) 25, VOLKSUNIE (VU) 22, AND COMMUNISTS/DEMOCRATIC AND PROGRESSIVE UNION (PCB-UDP) 4. CHANGES FOR EACH PARTY RESPECTIVELY, FROM PAST PARLIAMENT ARE PLUS 5, MINUS 2, MINUS 1, MINUS 2, PLUS 1, AND MINUS 1.

3. DUE TO COMPLEX PROPORTIONAL ELECTION SYSTEM THAT INVOLVES DISTRICTS LISTS BUT SHIFTS SURPLUS VOTES FROM ONE DISTRICT TO OTHERS WITHIN A SINGLE PROVINCE, SHIFTS IN CHAMBER SEATS DO NOT CORRESPOND

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PAGE 02 BRUSSE 01517 121911Z

TO CHANGES IN TOTAL POPULAR VOTE FOR EACH PARTY. POPULAR VOTE IN

CONTESTS FOR CHAMBER WERE AS FOLLOWS, EXPRESSED AS PERCENT OF
TOTAL VOTE WITH PERCENT OF VOTE RECEIVED IN 1971 ELECTIONS IN
PARENTHESES:

PSC-CVP	32.3 (30.1);
PSB-BSP	26.7 (27.2);
PLP-PVV	15.2 (15.1);
RW-FDF-PLDP	11.1 (13.1);
VU	10.2 (11.1);
PCB-UDP	3.2 (3.1).

4. RW-FDF-PLDP RESULT REFLECTS LOSS OF ONE SEAT FOR RW AND ONE FOR
FDF, TO 13 AND 9 SEATS, RESPECTIVELY. THREE PLDP DEPUTIES WERE NOW
REELECTED IN BRUSSELS ON JOINT FDF-PLDP LIST. THEY WERE ELECTED AS
LIBERALS IN 1971 ON LIST SEPARATE FROM THAT OF REGULAR FLEMISH AND
FRANCOPHONE LIBERALS, REMAINED OUTSIDE THE THREE PARTY COALITION
GOVERNMENT FORMED IN 1973 AND, AS PLDP, FORMED AN ALLIANCE WITH FDF
FOR PURPOSE OF THIS ELECTION. THEIR FUTURE STATUS, AS INDEPENDENT
PLDP OR AS PART OF RW-FDF OPPOSITION GROUP IS UNKNOWN.

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